IN THE CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (previously presented) A purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a mammalian Hypertension-Related Calcium-Regulated Gene (HCaRG), having the sequence set out in SEQ ID No.1, or its complementary strand.

3-5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) A purified nucleic acid molecule comprising a mammalian HCaRG, which has the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 3.

7. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 2.

8. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 24.

9. (original) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 7.

10. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 8.

11. (currently amended) A purified nucleic acid of at least 12 nucleotides in length that hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule in an *in situ* hybridization assay performed in a cell at 60°C in 4x SSC and 50% formamide, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises a coding ~~translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No. 1 between nucleotides 295 and 966, a coding ~~translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No. 3 between nucleotides 132 and 803, a sequence complementary to the coding ~~a translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No. 1, or a sequence complementary to the coding ~~a~~ ~~translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No.3.

12. (original) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11 which is an amplification primer.

13. (original) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11, which is a hybridization probe.

14. (original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 2 and a carrier.

15. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the cDNA or mRNA of claim 24 and a carrier.

16. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the cDNA or mRNA of claim 25 and a carrier.

17. (original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 7 and a carrier.

18. (original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 8 and a carrier.

19. (original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 11 and a carrier.

20. (original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 12 and a carrier.

21. (original) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 13 and a carrier.

22. (original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 9 and a carrier.

23. (original) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of 10 and a carrier.

24. (previously presented) An isolated HCaRG cDNA or mRNA comprising: the open reading frame of claim 35.

25. (previously presented) An isolated HCaRG cDNA or mRNA comprising the open reading frame of claim 41.

26. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 25.

27. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 26.

28. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 25 and a carrier.

29. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 27 and a carrier.

30. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 6.

31. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 30.

32. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 6 and a carrier.

33. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 30 and a carrier.

34. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 31 and a carrier.

35. (previously presented) An isolated open reading frame encoding SEQ ID NO: 2.

36. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the open reading frame of claim 35.

37. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 36.

38. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the open reading frame of claim 35 and a carrier.

39. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 36 and a carrier.

40. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 37 and a carrier.

41. (previously presented) An isolated open reading frame encoding SEQ ID NO: 4.

42. (previously presented) A recombinant vector comprising the open reading frame of claim 41.

43. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 42.

44. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the open reading frame of claim 41 and a carrier.

45. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim 42 and a carrier.

46. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 43 and a carrier.

47. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of claim 11 wherein the nucleic acid has a sequence that is perfectly complementary to the coding ~~a translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No.1, the coding ~~a translatable~~ portion of SEQ ID No.3, or a complementary sequence thereof.

48. (previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 47 which is an amplification primer.

49. (previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 47 which is a hybridization probe.

50. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 47 and a carrier.

51. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 48 and a carrier.

52. (previously presented) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 49 and a carrier.

53-58. (canceled)